

THE OBSERVER

An Independent Newspaper. Published Daily and Weekly at La Grande, Oregon, by the LA GRANDE EVENING OBSERVER PUBLISHING CO.

J. D. MEYERS, President. H. E. LEITER, Vice President, CLARKE LEITER, Editor and Publisher.

Entered at the Postoffice at La Grande, Oregon, as second class matter.

Address all communications to THE OBSERVER, 1716 Sixth Street.

On Sale in Other Cities: Oregon Hotel News Stand, Portland; Imperial Hotel News Stand, Portland.

City Official Paper. Member United Press Association.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES. By Carrier. Daily, single copy 5c. Daily, per week 35c. Daily, per month 1.00c. Daily, per six months in advance \$5.50. Daily, per year in advance \$7.00. By Mail. Daily, by mail per year, in advance \$4.00. Weekly Observer-Star, per year in advance \$1.50.

The Observer carrier boys are instructed to put the papers on the porch. If the carrier does not do this, misses you, or neglects getting the paper to you on time, kindly phone the Observer, as this is the only way we can determine whether or not the carriers are following instruction. Phone Main 37 before 7:30 o'clock and a paper will be sent you by special messenger if the carrier has missed you.

Advertising rates on application.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 1917

MR. NELSON'S SUCCESSOR

Lawrence H. Dinneen has been appointed city editor of The Observer, succeeding Mr. A. W. Nelson, who retired in order to go into business for himself. Mr. Nelson's place was a hard one to fill, and it was with regret that The Observer saw Mr. Nelson leave the paper after eleven years of faithful and efficient service. The editor of The Observer gave the selection of Mr. Dinneen's successor careful thought, and finally offered the place to Mr. Dinneen, one of the young men who he had helped train in the newspaper business. Mr. Dinneen is a graduate of the University of Oregon. He studied journalism there and then worked on the Oregon Journal of Portland, under Mr. Leiter, and also under Circulation Manager D. H. Smith. He then worked as local reporter and outside man on the Dallas Observer, one of the best papers in the Willamette valley, in order to get out-of-town experience. Mr. Dinneen is a live wire and will be found anxious and willing at all times to get the local news and to cooperate in all movement for the benefit of the city and county and its civic institutions. We bespeak for Mr. Dinneen a cordial reception in his new home.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

How the Mail Order Houses Work. "The advertising manager for the largest mail order house in the world recently made a speech before an advertising club in which he said something that every country merchant in the southwest ought to hear. He said: We have a bureau whose duty it is to read, each week, the country newspapers from all over the country. There is not a paper of any consequence in our trade territory that our bureau does not get. This bureau looks over these papers, and when we find a town where the merchants are not advertising in the local paper, we immediately flood that territory with our literature. It always brings results far ahead of the same effort put forth in a territory where the local merchants all the time use their local paper. In other words, through this bureau this mail order house hunts fields that are not being filled by the local merchants, and then goes in and fills them. And the non-advertising country merchant sits in despair, waiting over the inroads the mail order houses are making in his trade! If there is a country merchant that can't take a useful hint from that advertising manager's speech, he wouldn't wake up if a brick house fell on him."—Duluth Herald.

Living Beyond our Means

It is always a pitiful spectacle that of people with short incomes trying to emulate in their mode of living and expenditures those who are abundantly able to live and spend as they do regardless of the sum total so spent. To the person with a moderate income such a course makes life a nightmare and the struggle for show pathetic. For such person the average citizen has a feeling of pity mingled with contempt. And yet these misguided ones are only trying to live beyond their means who are in the class referred to, consider it silly and inexcusable; and yet that is exactly what we the people of Oregon are trying to do. We are emulating in our expenditures the state with three to seven or eight times our population and many times our wealth.

The state of Oregon is as large as the state of New York and Pennsylvania combined. It has a population well up toward 900,000. New York has more than 10,000,000, and Pennsylvania about 8,000,000.

Among the expenses incurred in running the state that of building and maintaining roads is one of the largest items, yet we have as large an area for which to supply roads as both these great and densely populated states with hundreds of times our wealth.

This is but an example of what as a state we are up against, and shows why we cannot have roads and other things similar to those in the rich and thickly populated east. New York has a population of more than 200 to the square mile and Pennsylvania has about 180, while Oregon has less than 10. Besides this, one-sixth of Oregon is within national forest reserves and consequently cannot be settled upon or made productive. This vast area pays no taxes and builds but few roads. In other lines the same conditions are confronting us.

Short and to the Point THIS SALE And This Advertisement We have enormous stocks of Fall and Winter Merchandise left. Our entire stock is first quality, newest styles, and always the lowest prices. We could hold this merchandise over until next year and sell same at higher prices as all lines are advancing rapidly. But we are merchants—not speculators and would rather give you the benefit of this merchandise now—so we have reduced the prices to induce you to clean these stocks up in a hurry. Our profit comes in the new friends we make—the good will we create in serving your interests first. Reduced Prices Throughout the Entire Store N.K. West & Co. THE QUALITY STORE

conditions are confronting us. We have been extravagant and are still so, because we are trying to have things as good as our more wealthy neighbors. They are none too good for us, but they make an eternal gain on the taxpayers to keep up appearances.

We want good roads and need them. We want good schools, just as our rich neighbors have and they are a necessity. We want many other things that we think we cannot get along without, and perhaps should not, but they are a heavy drain on our resources and if we are to keep up appearances and have them, we must expect to pay the bills.

The worst feature of the matter is that in order to have these things we must make our tax rate so high that it deters industries making the state their home. It prevents the growth and development of our state and the utilizing of our water power and other vast resources. There seems no way of avoiding this condition for like the woman the legends tell of who was given to the first man; "we can neither get along with or without them."

The County's New Judges

As a public official, our new county judge, L. N. Blowers, is not new to the people of Hood River. For two terms Judge Blowers made an efficient and successful mayor of the city of Hood River. This may not, however, be known to the newer residents of the city and valley. Yet all Hood River men know Mr. Blowers to be a careful, honest, conservative business man. Mr. Blowers proposes to work toward something that all of us desire in Hood River, a harmonizing of the different factional elements that have made impossible constructive action in the past few years. If he succeeds he will have accomplished much, and while it may be that he was not the choice of every one, it behooves all to get behind the new judge and help push affairs out of the old rut that hampered the effect of our work at home and abroad.—Hood River Glacier.

Marines' Work in Haiti Praised

"The reconstruction work of the United States Marines in Haiti provides one of the most thrilling and gratifying chapters in contemporary American history," said the Rt. Rev. Charles Bayney Colmore, bishop of Porto Rico and Haiti, who has been at the Willard for several days on his way home to Porto Rico from the convention of the Episcopal Church recently held in St. Louis.

"Americans can hardly visualize the awful squalor, suffering and chaos that existed in Haiti before its occupancy by Admiral Caperton," continued the bishop, "nor realize the extent of the regenerating labors of the United States Marines during the months they have been on duty there. The Marines have literally taught the Haitians how to live decently. Before their coming sanitation save in the crudest and most unsatisfactory forms was unknown; fevers and epidemics were as plentiful as revolutions, a press gang was in vogue and the country was the victim of continuous uprisings engineered by political

secondaries, each of whom ravaged the customs money drawer as each in turn came into short-lived power.

"The entry of the United States Marines ended this sorry story. With the wonderful facility and adaptability for which the Marines are noted, these advance agents of American civilization so changed Haiti, that after they had been there four months when I went on my annual visitation to the island I hardly knew it to be the same spot. It had been improved beyond my wildest hopes. Sanitary systems had been installed, the towns had been cleaned up, former idlers and revolutionists were working happily for living wages and a new spirit was animating the people. The United States Marines quietly were at their tasks as reconstructors of a nation and efficient guardians of the Monroe doctrine and peace makers of the Americas.

"I want the American people to realize what a big work is being done there. Too little is known of it and the men who are doing it deserve the praise and gratitude of the nation. It isn't a pleasant task to teach the people how to govern straight, and the Marine Officers and men realize this and yet go at it with stout hearts and high courage. They laugh at the hardships of the life. It is their duty and their motto is 'Semper Fidelis.'"

"The teamwork of the Marines is magnificent and they provide a standard that is military efficiency raised to the nth power. Naturally, they are greatly interested in the reorganization of the Corps under recent legislation and other improvements instituted by Major General Barnett, who is the idol of this ever-ready fighting force.

"There are great possibilities in Haiti. It is a country blessed with many natural advantages. Its people are a simple, well-meaning folk—too easily led for their own good—but under such wise supervision as they are enjoying now they are capable of contributing in large measure to the well-being of the West Indies and to the material prosperity of the Americas."—Washington Post.

THE FORUM

Dogfish for the Million.

La Grande, Ore., Jan. 6.—(To the Editor of the Telegram.)—In a recent issue I observed that Mr. Moore, our United States deputy fish commissioner, is making a publicity campaign in our Pacific coast states trying to educate the people to eat dogfish, because they are a cheaper food than the farm products are. I think he ought to be informed that the people of Oregon are obliged to pay a license to catch suckers, and that the dogfish being a member of the shark family, are particularly fond of swallowing suckers. And if he succeeds in educating the people to eat the 100,000,000 pounds of the combination of sharks and suckers, as he says they ought to do annually, to reduce the high cost of living, his new dogfish discovery will surely prove a great ac-

quition to those who are holding mass meetings to encourage the continuance of their boycott. It makes it very convenient for them in serving this dogfish as a substitute at their butterless, eggless and potatoless luncheons. To those who are afflicted by the high cost of living, Mr. Moore says that our government has come to their rescue by acting as godfather in rechristening the dogfish, and for a substitute selected gray fish. The bestowal of this new name signifies that the quality is also improved.

As substitutes are the order of the day and it has been found that fishermen make good substitutes for farmers, who will be clever enough to discover a substitute for the genuine money that will reduce the high cost of taxes that will soon be required to pay the increased salaries of all our federal commissioned officers? It is almost certain that they will not be very enthusiastic about taking dogfish as a substitute for their pay. It will require something of a higher value in quality even if our government can rechristen it with a more attractive fishy name.—Mrs. Harriett Stilwell in the Portland Telegram.

Notice. Anyone desiring to purchase or lease Wallowa Lake Park write or call immediately. Good proposition for immediate acceptance. Doctor orders change of climate for my wife. J. F. Egensperger, Joseph, Ore. 1-8-13

Drs. Darland, over Putman's.—Adv.

AESTHETIC AND SOCIAL DANCING 5th Floor Foley Building For Information Telephone Mornings Black 1282 Afternoons Main 89 MISS LEONA NEWLIN

HARRIDGE WHIPP Song Recital

Tuesday Evening, Jan. 30th

Methodist Episcopal Church 8:15 P. M.

Admission 50c. Tickets on Sale at Van Buren's

A Player Piano

brings pleasure and musical education to all in the home.

Let us demonstrate our Euphonia Player. A product of the Cable Co., the world's greatest piano makers.

We believe, and think we can show you, that this is the best player you can buy for the price we ask.

Style P. W. \$450.00 Style P. M. \$525.00

The Wiley B. Allen Co. R. F. PETERS, Mgr. Foley Hotel Bldg. Phone Red 451

The La Grande National Bank Issues Booklet "BANKING MADE PLAIN" Educating the public in a practical knowledge of the simple methods of banking is a mission to which enterprising banks all over the country are more and more devoting themselves, and as a means of service to the community, one of the latest booklets along this line entitled "Banking Made Plain" is now being distributed by the La Grande National Bank. The booklet is noteworthy because of condensing into a small space a really remarkable amount of practical information, concisely yet readably stated, and typographically attractive. The forepart of this booklet gives in a concise manner the preliminary requirements of banking in relation to deposits, checks, and accounts. There are fifteen sub-heads under the heading "Accounts", thirty sub-heads under the heading of "Checks", fifteen sub-heads under the heading of "Deposits" and other main headings followed by various sub-headings are "Identification", "Overdrafts", "Banking by Mail" and how a "Clearing House" operates. A few of the sub-heads will serve to indicate the nature and scope of the booklet, as follows: "How to Open an Account", "Forms of Accounts which can be Opened", "How to Balance Your Account", "Bank Statement", "Deposits for Collection", "Deposits by Mail", "Deposits of Husband and Wife", "Death of Depositor", etc. We find more good information under "Checks" such as "How to Draw a Check", "Altered Check", "Lost Check", "Undated", "Post Dated", "To Stop Payment", etc. The latter part of the booklet deals with what every borrower should know and gives a similar wealth of information and includes brief and adequate treatment of such subjects as "Notes", "Collectors", "Discounts", "Note Made by Minor", "Note Made by Married Woman", "Negotiability" and many others. Under the head of "Drafts" and "Bills of Exchange" are "Acceptance", "Acceptance for Honor", "Due Date", "Joint Drawee", "Notice", etc. Then follows "Indorsements", giving an explanation of many kinds and liability of indorsers, following this up with the important subjects of "Protests", "Collections", "Lost Paper", and some very useful "Bank Don'ts". Any one who wishes a copy need only apply at the bank where they will be distributed free.